

House Bill 171 – Department of the Environment – Yard Waste, Food

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Composting

Subgroup Meeting Agenda

Date: Thursday, August 23, 2018; 9:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

Place: Maryland Department of the Environment
Lobby Conference Rooms
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21230

- 9:30 Welcome and Introductions - *All*
- 9:40 Obstacles/Barriers to Composting in Maryland
- 1) Availability of affordable carbon sources.
 - 2) Capital/financing options for new facilities.
 - 3) Siting/location challenges.
 - 4) Contamination in feedstock
 - 5) Education and outreach including the uses of compost.
- 9:55 Recommendations discussed in previous HB 171 Workgroup meetings
- 1) Continue to identify obstacles regarding grading of compost.
 - 2) Look into getting State Chemist approval to consider compost as a soil amendment.
 - 3) The Department should work with MDA to improve outreach to equine industry.
 - 4) Survey commercial composters and collect data
 - 5) Develop online reporting.
 - 6) Provide siting assistance.
 - 7) Build small-scale composting infrastructure where larger facilities do not exist or are not economically feasible.
 - 8) Consider whether the existing disposal ban on yard trimmings should be strengthened.
 - 9) Integrate composting and AD into community economic development initiatives.

- 10) Encourage expanded composting capacity in underserved areas of the State.
- 11) Assist operators in upgrading existing yard trimmings composting facilities to process source separated food scraps.
- 12) Provide training and conduct outreach on benefits of composting.

(note – all recommendations listed about were discussed in previous Study Group Meetings are were reflected in meeting summaries)

10:15 Other recommendations

10:25 Wrap up and next steps - *MDE*

Please refer to the Department's Organics Diversion and Composting page for information relating to the study group. www.mde.maryland.gov/composting

Additional questions? Please contact John Sullivan at john.sullivan1@maryland.gov or 410-537-3314